their Fellow ſubjects, when they ſtand in Competition with their *corrupt Deſigns*. *D.*

N° 3. *Monday, December* 12.

———*quod* Medicorum *eſt*,
Promittunt Medici. Hor.

THERE is a general Complaint of Abuſes and Corruptions in all Profeſſions; which is moſt frequently urged by thoſe Men themſelves, who are the chief Authors and Occaſions of them. If you employ the moſt infamous Tool of the Law, he will begin with exclaiming againſt *foul Practice*, and congratulate you on your good Fortune, which did not let you fall into the Hands of ſome *Pettifoggers* about Town. In like manner we never meet with the Terms *Mercenary Scribblers*, *Wretched Hackney-Writers*, *Sciolists*, *Poetaſters* and ſo forth, any where ſo often as in the Works of thoſe miſerable Vermin themſelves. What is more common than to hear a *City Captain* inveigh againſt our late *military Promotions?* or to ſee the Learning, Integrity, and Merit of our reverend Prelates call'd in queſtion by *little factious Lecturers*, *Curates*, and *Sermon-Jobbers?*

But the Faculty of Phyſick abounds with Impoſtors, Cheats, and ignorant Pretenders more than any other Profeſſion whatſoever, if we may give Credit to the conſtant Declarations and Complaints of the *Practitioners* themſelves; in which Number I include not only Thoſe, who call themſelves regular Phyſicians, Surgeons, and Apothecaries; but likewiſe all Perſons, who make it their Buſineſs to preſerve Health, and repair human Conſtitutions, from *Roſemary-Lane* and *Hay-*

don-Yard in the *Minories*, to *Tom*'s Coffee-houſe in *Covent-Garden*, and from thence to the *King's Aſs-houſe* in *Piccadilly*, with all their intermediate Stages and Diſpenſatories of Medicine; amongſt whom there are continual Claſhings, Revilings, and mutual Exprobations. They are for ever abuſing one another as *Quacks*, *Empericks*, and ignorant *Pretenders*; recommending their own Remedies to us as the only *original* and *truly prepared Specificks*. At the ſame time they kindly forewarn us to beware of *Impoſtures*, trump'd up in Imitation of their approved Remedies; for which purpoſe they direct us very exactly to their Shops or Houſes, and ſeal their Preparations with their own Coats of Arms, *to prevent Counterfeits*.

I deſign, in ſome future Paper, to examine the Pretenſions of theſe numberleſs Artiſts, and to make a faithful Report to the Publick of their ſeveral Merits; to which end, I ſhall enquire into the true Nature of *Quackery*, and expoſe *Mala Praxis* to the World, without Favour, Prejudice, or Partiality, wherever I find it, from the great Leeches of State, down to the humble Aſtrological Phyſicians in *Barbican* and *Moorfields*. I ſhall take no Notice whether they are Graduates or not; Fellows of the College, or Licentiates only; whether they loll at Eaſe in ſpring Chariots, or plod the Streets in a Thread-bare Cloak; whether their Fee is a Guinea or a Shilling; whether they kindly invite you to their Houſes at certain Hours, or will hardly come to yours, if you ſend for them; whether they are favourite Court-Opifers, Stage-Mountebanks, itinerant Horſe-Doctors, peripatetick Tooth-Drawers, Oculiſts, Corn-Cutters, or Barber-Surgeons; whether they are old Men or old Women; firſt-born or ſeventh-born Sons. I ſhall make no Diſtinction of Climates in this Enquiry, as whether they are *Engliſh*, *French*, or *High-German* Doctors; nor trouble my Head at what Univerſities they had their Education; or whether they had it at any, or not; whether they practiſe in pub-

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lick or private; whether they trumpet their own Cures in the News-papers, or cautiouſly murder in ſecret, and give the World no Account of the Havock, which they are daily making in this great Metropolis; — But as my only Deſign is to diſtinguiſh Merit and deteſt Impoſture, ſo I ſhall have no Regard to any Thing but Truth in this Examination.

If I find, upon Enquiry, that the famous Mr. *John Moore* has really perform'd ſuch Cures with his *Worm-Powder*, and other Medicines, as he aſſures us he has done; or if the Atteſters for Dr. *Buggs* of *Coventry* prove to be Perſons of Reputation; I ſhall make no Scruple to give them the Preference to ſome greater Names, who owe their Succeſs to Flattery and Adulation, or to the Intereſt of particular Factions and Cabals.

I ſhall judge in the ſame impartial Manner of Seignior *Honorato Fornello*'s never-failing Medicine for the *Gravel* and *Stone*, which he recommends to the World by publickly aſſuring us, that he is *no Phyſician*; a Declaration, which is ſomewhat equivocal, and ſeems very extraordinary in whatſoever Senſe it is to be underſtood. But tho' I am ſo candid in this Matter, and am reſolv'd to adjuſt the Merits of all Competitors, by the Cures which they perform, without conſidering their Education, Character, Circumſtances, or Profeſſions; yet I would adviſe this *Gentleman* (for ſo I think he calls himſelf) to drop theſe Words in his future Advertiſements, leſt they ſhould give ſome Umbrage to the *College*, as well as to numberleſs well-meaning Perſons in this Kingdom, who are firmly perſuaded that it is not abſolutely impoſſible for a *Phyſician* to underſtand his Buſineſs.

I thought it my Duty to give this ſeaſonable Caution to a *Foreigner* (as I ſuppoſe this *Gentleman* to be by his Name) that he might not, by his Ignorance of our Cuſtoms, draw a powerful Body of Men upon his Back, who might, perhaps, prejudice the Publick a-

gainſt what I am willing to believe a very uſeful and excellent Remedy.

But laying aſide all theſe Particulars for the preſent, I cannot help diſtinguiſhing, in this Paper, one of the greateſt *Arcana* in Phyſick, which either this or any Age has produced, being juſtly entitled,

Catholicon AUREUM *Baſilicum*: Or, *The Royal* GOLDEN *Specifick*,

" WHICH is ſo well known in all the Courts " of *Europe*, and ſo highly approved of by " the *Nobility* and *Gentry* of this Kingdom, for its " wonderful Virtues in all *Hypocondriacal* and *Hyſte-* " *rical* Diſtempers, that it is juſtly eſteemed the " *univerſal Medicine*; for it infallibly cures all De- " grees of the *Spleen*, *Vapours*, and *Melancholy*, be " they of never ſo long Duration, or from whatever " Cauſes they may proceed; whether from an ill " State of Health, Indigeſtion, and ſharp, bilious " Humours; or from a natural Gloomineſs and Sa- " turnine Diſpoſition of Mind; or laſtly, from Miſ- " fortunes in the World, occaſioned either by una- " voidable Accidents, or by Luxury, Profuſeneſs, and " Gaming; from all which, this ineſtimable Medi- " cine gives the Patient a ſafe and ſpeedy Relief, by " rectifying the Juices, purifying the Blood, and " ſtrengthning the Digeſtion; ſo that all black Thoughts, " direful Apprehenſions, and diſmal foreboding Fears, " are immediately removed; in the room whereof " ſucceeds a new Train of Ideas, which renovate the " whole animal Œconomy, exhilerate the Heart, " occaſion brisk and ſparkling Imaginations, chearful " Dreams, and the moſt lively and ſanguine Spirits. " In a Word, it recovers all Perſons, as it were by " Inchantment, from thoſe Incumbrances of the " Mind, which occaſion a dark and ſplenatick way " of Thinking, and puts them in a State of perfect

" Sere-